

Message Text

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47

ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 OPIC-03 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00

/022 W

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R 301125Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 720

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 9915

E.O. 11652: GE

TAGS: EFIN CFED OPIC ET

SUBJ: TAW TRANSFERS

REF: A) 211431 B) ADDIS ABABA 8152

1. EMBASSY CONTACTED EXCHANGE CONTROLLER OF THE NATIONAL BANK OF ETHIOPIA, ATO BEKELE MELESSIE, WHO REITERATED NBE'S POSITION REPORTED REF B THAT THE BANK CANNOT DISCLOSE ANY INFORMATION REGARDING AN ACCOUNT OR TRANSFERS FROM THAT ACCOUNT WITHOUT THE AUTHORIZATION OF THE ACCOUNT HOLDER.

2. COMMERCIAL ATTACHE SPOKE WITH ATO ASRAT ABEBE, MANAGER OF LOCAL TAW OFFICE, IN AN ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN SOME INFORMATION ON TAW/ ETHIOPIA'S RECENT ACTIVITIES. ASRAT SAID THAT HE HAD RECEIVED NO RECENT INSTRUCTIONS FROM EITHER TAW REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS IN NAIROBI OR FROM TAW /NEW YORK. HE HAD NO INFORMATION ON THE WHEREABOUTS OF TAW OFFICERS APART FROM AN UNDERSTANDING THAT ERNEST KELIBALA WAS IN NEW YORK AND WAS EXPECTED TO RETURN TO NAIROBI IN SEPTEMBER.

3. ASRAT SAID THAT TAW/ETHIOPIA IS CONTINUING ITS OPERATIONS AS BEFORE, COLLECTING MONTHLY PAYMENTS FROM A DWINDLING NUMBER OF TAW CLIENTS AS THE OTHER CLIENTS ARE COMPLETING THEIR PAYMENTS. ASRAT ADDED THAT WITHIN "A FEW MONTHS" NEARLY ALL OF THE CLIENTS WILL HAVE COMPLETED THEIR PAYMENTS AND THERE WILL BE NOTHING FOR THE LOCAL TAW STAFF TO DO. HE SAID THAT LOCAL OFFICE IS COLLECTING PAYMENTS FROM CLIENTS, PAYING EXPENSES
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OF RUNNING THE OFFICE AND DEPOSITING THE REMAINDER OF THE

FUNDS IN TAW'S LOCAL BANK ACCOUNT AT THE COMMERCIAL BANK
OF ETHIOPIA. HE MAINTAINED THAT NO FUNDS WERE CURRENTLY BEING
TRANSFERRED OUT OF THE COUNTRY AND NONE HAD BEEN "FOR SOME
TIME."
TIENKEN

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Message Attributes

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